

ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



ARKANSAS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS UP 1 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

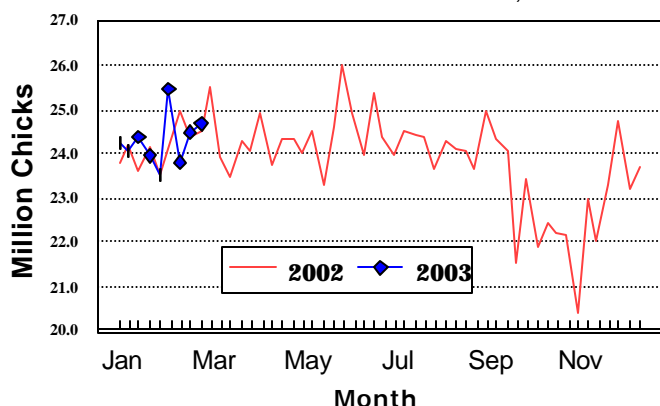
Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 24.7 million during the week ending March 1, 2003. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week in 2002, and also up 1 percent from the revised previous week, and included 2.2 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through March 1, 2003 were 218.7 million, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 25.6 million, up 2 percent from both the corresponding week a year earlier, and from the revised previous week. Of the total hatch, 2.8 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 82.7 percent.

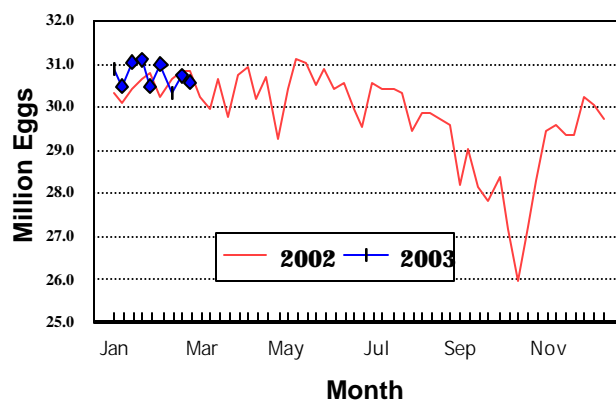
Arkansas hatcheries set 30.6 million broiler-type eggs during the weekend March 1, 2003, down 1 percent from the same period last year, and also down 1 percent from the previous week.

Week Ending	NET PLACEMENTS			CHICKS HATCHED			EGGS SET		
	2002	2003	% Change	2002	2003	% Change	2002	2003	% Change
	1,000			1,000			1,000		
Jan. 25	24,158	23,950	99	24,968	25,618	103	30,623	31,087	102
Feb. 1	23,546	23,524	100	24,583	25,325	103	30,806	30,468	99
Feb. 8	24,115	25,475	106	24,842	25,519	103	30,232	30,994	103
Feb. 15	24,984	23,806	95	25,204	25,709	102	30,627	30,350	99
Feb. 22	24,382	24,509	101	25,438	25,149	99	30,825	30,762	100
Mar. 1	24,553	24,680	101	25,023	25,645	102	30,859	30,603	99

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2002-2003



EGGS SET 2002 - 2003



BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2003

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/ %	Week Ending						1/ %
	08-Feb	15-Feb	22-Feb	01-Mar		25-Jan	01-Feb	08-Feb	15-Feb	22-Feb	01-Mar	
Alabama	27,284 *	27,311	27,533	27,458	93	21,492	21,231	21,390	20,696	21,200	20,287	92
ARKANSAS	30,994	30,350	30,762	30,603	99	23,950	23,524	25,475	23,806	24,509 *	24,680	101
Delaware	3,489	3,348	3,295	3,489	98	4,775	5,018	4,698	5,539	5,114	5,044	103
Florida	1,609	1,605	1,598	1,500	64	1,689	1,754	1,393	1,739	1,740	1,752	82
Georgia	30,909 *	30,817	31,321 *	31,708	101	24,928	25,094	25,425	25,844 *	25,415 *	25,701	98
Kentucky	6,692 *	6,121	6,188	6,277	97	5,254	5,566	5,315	5,366	5,491	5,503	113
Maryland	9,897	8,694	9,351	9,370	94	6,493	6,274	6,265	5,601	5,732	5,823	86
Mississippi	18,501	18,912	18,447	18,884	101	15,937	15,968	15,479	15,967	15,727	15,500	99
N. Carolina	18,151 *	18,492	18,754	19,091	97	14,290	14,262	14,439	14,217	14,011 *	13,987	92
Oklahoma	6,432	6,395	6,632	6,373	100	4,289	5,624	4,259	4,509	4,091 *	4,840	120
Pennsylvania	3,447	3,434 *	3,137 *	3,494	93	2,510	2,523	2,482	2,551 *	2,544 *	2,461	93
S. Carolina	4,820	4,842	4,823	4,857	99	4,100	4,209	3,607	3,534	3,708	3,428	86
Texas	14,417	14,786	14,807	14,816	97	12,193	12,276	11,905	12,340	11,872	11,660	96
Virginia	6,520	6,491	6,562	6,720	101	5,007	5,287	5,617	5,612	5,286	5,847	104
CALAMO,TN,WV	19,682	18,671	20,143	20,565	101	19,138	17,864	17,206	18,758	18,429 *	17,836	97
Total 2003	202,844 *	200,269 *	203,353 *	205,205		166,045	166,474	164,955	166,079 *	164,869 *	164,349	
Total 2002	208,199	210,479	211,110	210,211		167,400	164,318	165,373	167,095	170,461	169,215	
% Prev. Year	97	95	96	98		99	101	100	99	97	97	
Approximate Marketing Date 2003.....						15-Mar	22-Mar	29-Mar	05-Apr	12-Apr	19-Apr	

* Revised . 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES DOWN 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 205 million eggs during the week ending March 1, 2003. This was down 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN 3 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 164 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 1, 2003. Placements were down 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through March 1, 2003 were 1.48 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.